

**NWTF Regional Biologist Report**  
**Bob Eriksen, NWTF Regional Biologist**  
**March 1- May 31, 2012**

**Meeting and Presentations**

- Met with representatives of Range Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission to discuss projects on pipelines and well pads
- Attended the March Pennsylvania State Chapter Board of Directors meeting in Pleasant Gap, PA
- Traveled to March Maryland State Chapter Board meeting in Grasonville, MD
- Attended the March New Jersey State Chapter Board meeting in Robbinsville, NJ
- Participated in the March meeting of the Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council Steering Committee
- Attended the March New Jersey and Pennsylvania NRCS Technical Committee meetings
- Presented a Wild Turkeys 101 Power Point to the Outdoor Club at Perkasio High School in Montgomery County, PA and at an Outdoor Expo in Speculator, New York
- Attended March Pennsylvania Game Commission Working group meeting in Harrisburg
- Participated in the March meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance
- Presented a Wild Turkeys 101 power point at the DuPont Deepwater Plant in Salem, New Jersey and toured the facility providing wildlife management recommendations
- Met with officials of the Exxon-Mobil Research facility in Clinton, NJ and provided wildlife management advice
- Provided a Wild Turkeys 101 power point at the Wallkill National Wildlife Refuge in Sussex, NJ
- Attended the April Pennsylvania Game Commission meeting

**Writing Projects**

- Prepared an article on Spring Turkey Hunting Safety for Pennsylvania Turkey Talk for the spring issue
- Prepared the spring turkey hunting safety press release for the Pennsylvania Chapter
- Prepared a press release on Pennsylvania Chapter Super Fund habitat projects for the spring meeting of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association
- Developed comments for Pennsylvania State Chapter regarding Pennsylvania Game Commission proposals for management of feral hog populations

- Prepared articles on Pennsylvania Chapter Super Fund Expenditures in 2012, the Pitman-Robertson Fund 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Anadarko Petroleum contribution projects for the summer issue of Pennsylvania Turkey Talk
- Submitted a “Heroes of Conservation” nomination to Field and Stream magazine for the Pennsylvania Chapter
- Prepared the Pennsylvania Chapter comment letter for the April Game Commission meeting
- Developed a draft agenda for the annual PGC/PANWTF meeting

### **Special Projects**

- Participated in a radio interview on the effects of weather on wild turkey nesting for Accu-Weather on Penn State Radio
- Participated in an interview for a nationally syndicated radio talk show hosted by Jim Slinsky discussing wild turkey management, PANWTF and hunting
- Picked up and delivered Conservation Seed to New Jersey
- Provided consultation on radio transmitter attachment to biologists with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Met with University of Delaware graduate student to discuss literature citations for his thesis
- Assisted Edgefield staff in development of a seed and seedling supplier for the Canadian provinces
- Met with Diamond Life Sponsor in Lehigh County to provide advice on managing property to encourage wild turkeys
- Was interviewed by outdoor writer Steve Kendrus regarding the outlook for the Delaware spring gobbler hunting season
- Arranged for complimentary memberships for the current class of WCO trainee cadets at the Pennsylvania Game Commission Ross Lefler School of Conservation
- Developed wording and ordered habitat project signage for the Delaware chapters
- Met with representatives of the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game and obtained an extension on the current contract allowing for regional biologist support in fiscal 2013

- Participated in final thesis defense as a committee member and attended presentation by University of Delaware masters' candidate on a wild turkey hen survival and nesting success study
- Made arrangements for officials from New Brunswick, Canada to visit Maine and evaluate agricultural concerns regarding wild turkeys and economic impacts of wild turkey hunting
- Assisted in WCO training on non-profit conservation organizations and the PGC Successful Turkey Hunting curriculum
- Discussed status of wild turkey dispersal into New Brunswick, Canada from Maine with a reporter from the Portland (ME) Press Herald
- Prepared a request for funding of projects in Bradford, Sullivan, Wyoming and Susquehanna Counties by Chesapeake Energy
- Processed 7 Pennsylvania Game Commission hen study bills
- Obtained a grant for tree planting on Pennsylvania Super Fund habitat projects from the American Chestnut Foundation

#### **Super Fund and Outreach Fund Activities**

- Processed 42 Pennsylvania Chapter Super Fund requests, 6 Maryland requests, 2 Delaware requests, 3 New Jersey requests, 2 Nova Scotia requests and 2 New Brunswick requests
- Processed 13 Pennsylvania Chapter Outreach requests

#### **Banquet Attendance and Coverage**

- Attended Local Number One banquet in Norvelt, PA
- Attended five banquet planning meetings in New Jersey because of regional director opening
- Provided silent auction power point and made comments at Jerry Zimmerman Memorial Chapter banquet in Allentown, PA
- Covered Kittatinny Gobblers banquet in Andover, NJ
- Worked at Spruce Run Chapter (NJ) banquet in Easton, PA

#### **Allegheny National Forest**

- Met with US Forest Service staff in March to discuss progress on the Bobbs Fork Stewardship Agreement and Martin Run Grant project
- Toured Beanfields grassland and aspen regeneration site in March

- Inspected final Martin Run grant wildlife opening restoration, warm season grass planting and herbicide application sites in late May prior to closing out the grant in June

### **Information Requests**

- Provided information on New Jersey and Pennsylvania hunting on the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to two Florida hunters
- Received and handled 67 requests for information on wild turkey behavior, habitat management, natural history, research, management, hunting options and the impacts of the early spring